

SITE FILE COPY

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Missouri
COUNTY:	Jackson
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Standard Theatre
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Standard Theatre, Century Theater, Shubert's Missouri, Folly Theater

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 12th and Central streets (300 West 12th Street)			
CITY OR TOWN: Kansas City		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #5 The Honorable Richard Bolling	
STATE: Missouri	CODE: 64105	COUNTY: Jackson	CODE: 095

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments <u>presently</u> <u>empty</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Annbar Associates			
STREET AND NUMBER: c/o Hotel Muehlebach			
CITY OR TOWN: Kansas City	STATE: Missouri	CODE: 64105	CODE: 29

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Office of Recorder of Deeds			
STREET AND NUMBER: Jackson County Courthouse			
CITY OR TOWN: Kansas City	STATE: Missouri	CODE: 64106	CODE: 29

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: 1. The Need for the Preservation of Kansas City's Architectural Heritage			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kansas City Chapter, The American Institute of Architects			
STREET AND NUMBER: 917 West 43rd Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Kansas City	STATE: Missouri	CODE: 64111	CODE: 29

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Missouri
COUNTY:	Jackson
ENTRY NUMBER	
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Missouri	
COUNTY Jackson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6. # 1

STANDARD THEATRE

2. Landmarks Register of the Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri
1970 (Local)
Landmarks Commission of Kansas City
17th Floor West
City Hall
Kansas City, Missouri 64106 Code: 29
3. Historic American Building Survey
1972 (Federal)
Library of Congress
Washington, District of Columbia 20000 Code: 08
4. Historic Building Preservation Analysis, Kansas City, Missouri,
Downtown Plan
1973 (Local)
Johnson, Brickell, Mulcahy and Associates, Inc.
Transportation and Planning Consultants
Suite 105, 8301 State Line Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64114 Code: 29
5. Missouri State Historical Survey
1974 (State)
Missouri State Park Board
P. O. Box 176, 1204 Jefferson Building
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 Code: 29

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Standard Theatre, constructed 1900, was designed by the prominent Kansas City architect, Louis S. Curtiss. It faces south at the corner of Central and 12th streets in downtown Kansas City. The building is 125 feet long, 70 feet wide and 65 feet high. The rear, west wing is 26 feet long.

The design features a handsome neo-classic Palladian motif on the primary facade. The support footings are constructed of two to three courses of limestone blocks 18 and 16 inches thick, and three feet long.¹ The foundations are constructed of rubble masonry.²

The walls have a base course of Carthage limestone at the sidewalk line. Red and buff-colored pressed brick was used on the south (primary) and east (secondary) walls, and common red brick was used on the west and north walls.

The rusticated first story of the main facade contains three arched entrances, each flanked by rusticated pilasters. The four central pilasters visually support the Palladian arch window which dominates the street facade and gives the effect of a Renaissance piano nobile. The symmetry of the Palladian motif is enhanced by flanking double-hung windows with semi-circular transoms at the balcony/mezzanine level and by oculi windows at the gallery level.

The rustication is returned on the east wall's southernmost and northernmost bays. A row of seven, small, evenly spaced windows ventilate the attic near the top of the east wall. The east wall has the emergency exits and stage service entrances, including a 19-foot high opening for scenery.

The west wall has several, small window and door openings. The west wing, used for stage dressing rooms, has a series of small windows and, at its west end, a doorway to accommodate scenery.

The theater's north wall is devoid of openings.

Exterior ornamental trim on the south and east facades, including the main cornice, pedestal cornice and cap molds, Ionic columns of the front facade, molded archivolts, architraves over the doors and windows and other similar items, are made of galvanized iron with pressed zinc ornaments.³

A single, large smoke stack is located inside the angle of the junction of the main building and the west wing.

The interior has a transitional steel and wood timber framing system which has been painted with fire-proofing material and/or sheathed in fire-proofing material in the area of the stage. The balcony is now supported by a poured concrete floor.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Missouri	
COUNTY Jackson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. # 1

STANDARD THEATRE

A basement occurs under the stage only. It houses the mechanical plant and offstage service rooms, probably originally for musicians as two stairs from this area lead to the orchestra pit in front of the stage.

The interior features the stage with its richly ornamented proscenium arch. The auditorium has excellent accoustical properties.

The main floor contains the main entrance lobby and box office. In the auditorium theater seats with neo-classic side pieces are arranged in three sections with two side aisles and two off-center aisles. Main floor and balcony boxes are located on the side walls near the stage.

Backstage are the flies, fly balconies, scenery storage area and west wing containing 10 dressing rooms.

The balcony has a rear lobby and slanting poured concrete floor. A film projection room is located at the top of the balcony.

Stairways are located along the side walls connecting the main floor, stage, boxes, and balcony. Stairways in the lobby connect the first floor and balcony levels.

A wealth of interior ornamental embellishment occurs in the theater. Much of it is plaster work painted red and gold -- including the chandeliers. Neo-classic motifs used throughout the interior are compatible with the exterior design.

The theater was originally a spectacle of lights. Incandescent bulbs dotted primary architectural features on the exterior. A flagpole at the southeast corner of the roof supported a sphere three feet in diameter with light bulbs covering its surface.⁴

The exterior has undergone only minor alteration. The marquee has been removed. The westernmost door on the south facade and two street level doors on the east facade have been partially bricked in. Emergency exit locations were altered during a 1923 remodeling project necessitating the bricking up of original exits and creating new openings in the east wall.

In 1923 the interior was substantially remodelled. The lobby was reduced in size and the box office moved. A secondary box office serving the upper gallery was removed along with staircases, gallery, balcony, and the owner's mezzanine apartment. The boxes were redesigned, and the balcony and gallery which were supported by cast-iron and steel members were replaced with a single steeply sloping, poured concrete balcony. The gutting of the upper seating area necessitated the complete replacement of plaster ornament in this section.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Missouri	
COUNTY	
Jackson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. # 2

STANDARD THEATRE

The neo-classic plaster ornament in the proscenium arch is unchanged from the Louis Curtiss design. The 1923 plaster work is quite compatible with the earlier ornamental plaster work in the theater.

Except for minimal changes the backstage and dressing room areas remain as Curtiss designed them.

The neighborhood of the theater is characterized by the site of the new convention center extending for two blocks directly to the south. The existing structures on these blocks are presently undergoing demolition. Construction is expected to commence within the year. Directly catty-cornered to the southeast is the Barney Allis City Park, a well-landscaped urban park with an automobile parking lot underneath it. To the east a row of 70 year old, two story structures house cabarets. This site is the proposed location for a Regency-Hyatt House. On the block to the north stretches a downtown fringe of hotel and business buildings, and the garment district. West of the theater are a parking lot and deteriorating apartment and hotel buildings.

The building is in sound structural condition. Neglect of maintenance and and housekeeping have caused the interior and exterior of the theater to be dirty and in need of extensive rehabilitation in order to provide a desirable theater atmosphere. The plumbing, heating, and electrical systems are in need of improvement.

FOOTNOTES

1. Louis Curtiss, "Specifications for the Erection and Completion of a Theatre Building and Dressing Room Annex for Messrs. Ed. H. and Jas. J. Butler, of Saint Louis, Missouri, to be Erected at the Corner of Twelfth and Central Streets, Kansas City, Missouri, According to Drawings and Specifications Prepared Therefore by Louis Curtiss, Architect, Kansas City, Missouri," [1900], p. 7.
2. Ibid., p. 8.
3. Ibid., p. 19.
4. Ibid., p. 21.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1900

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Standard Theatre in Kansas City, Missouri, designed by Architect Louis S. Curtiss, is an important survival of turn-of-the-century theater architecture in the downtown area. Survival of the original architectural blueprints and specifications for construction enhance the importance of the structure as an architectural document. Plans for a 1910 addition to the adjoining Edward Hotel (razed 1965) by Curtiss are also extant.

The theater, together with the companion hotel, was a hub of activity in Kansas City's theatrical circles during the early years of this century. The Edward Hotel Grill was a meeting place for newspapermen, prizefighters and the gentlemen of the Kansas City Club. At the hotel grill Ernie Burnett composed the classic torch song, "Melancholy Baby."

The Standard Theatre opened September 23, 1900, offering performances of burlesque comedy and vaudeville.¹ After a January 31, 1901, fire destroyed the Coates Opera House three blocks away, the bill included opera and comic opera performances transferred to the Standard from the Coates. It was at this time that the popular actors, Sarah Bernhardt, Maude Adams and Richard Mansfield appeared. In 1902 the theater's name was changed to the "Century." Burlesque shows scheduled on the Empire Circuit were presented. Al Jolson, Fannie Brice and Eddie Foy were among the stars who appeared during this time.

Joe Donegan, the manager of the theater and hotel from 1900 until 1922, scheduled special events, often prizefights and wrestling, on Saturday evenings after the regular show. Among those appearing were Jack Johnson, Jack Dempsey, and Harry the Great. Jack Johnson and his wife stayed in the owner's apartment in the theater during his visit to Kansas City, as no hotels would rent him a room.² Frank James, brother of outlaw Jesse James, was the ticket taker.³

The Shubert Brothers purchased the theater in 1923, extensively remodeled the interior, and renamed it "Shubert's Missouri." A contemporary newspaper account describes the renovated interior as "... much roomier than in the days of the Century and [much less] stuffy..."⁴ During this era the theater was returned to use for productions of legitimate drama such as the plays of Eugene O'Neill and William Shakespeare.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Missouri	
COUNTY Jackson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. # 1

STANDARD THEATRE

With Prohibition the theater and grill encountered hard times. The Missouri continued as a playhouse until 1928 and after that was intermittently open for touring shows and movies until it closed in 1932. Five years later it was auctioned for back taxes. In 1941 the theater reopened as "The Folly" with striptease. World War II soldiers between trains, and local patrons whistled at Gypsy Rose Lee, Tempest Storm, Rose La Rose and Peaches Browning. Striptease combined with X-rated movies kept the theater open until December, 1973. The final performer of note was Miss Chesty Gabor.

The architect, Louis Singleton Curtiss (1865-1924) was born in Belleville, Ontario. According to his obituary, he studied at the University of Toronto (this has not been confirmed by the school's records), and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris (the school has not responded to inquiries). He is first listed in the Kansas City Directories for 1887. This same year he was awarded third place in a competition by the Kansas City Architectural Sketch Club for a clock tower. The following year he is listed as a draftsman for Adriance Van Brunt.⁵ For the years 1890 and 1891 he was Assistant Superintendent of Buildings. Also in 1890 he and Frederick C. Gunn (1865-1959) formed a partnership which lasted until 1899. He devised the first use of caisson foundation piers under his 1890 Kansas City City Hall. They designed the Missouri State Building for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, The Progress Club, Kansas City (1893) now badly altered; and several additional local buildings. After the partnership ceased in 1899 Curtiss designed the Standard Theatre, the Willis Wood Theater, Kansas City (1902, destroyed 1920's); hotels and restaurants for the Santa Fe Railroad and the Fred Harvey System (1905-1909); the Boley Clothing Store, Kansas City (1908-1909), listed on the National Register of Historic Places; the Louis Curtiss Studio Building, Kansas City (1908-1909), listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and a number of additional projects in Kansas City. Toward the end of his life Curtiss became increasingly reclusive. After his death the Kansas City Journal-Post ran an article describing at length the rare and unusual furnishings of his attractive, modern apartment.⁶

Col. Edward J. Butler (1840-1911), the Standard's original owner-builder, was a prominent St. Louis businessman who amassed a fortune in real estate investments including the St. Louis and Kansas City Standard theaters and other theaters on the Empire circuit. A native of Ireland, he came to this country as a young boy, learned the horseshoer's trade in New York and came to St. Louis. He educated himself and became a powerful influence in the political and financial life of St. Louis. A witty, charming person, he promoted many persons in political office, although he himself never held public office.⁷

James J. Butler (1861-1917), son of Edward J. Butler, worked in his father's horseshoeing shop, was educated at St. Louis University and St. Louis Law School, being admitted to the bar of St. Louis County in 1885. He served two terms as the St. Louis City Attorney before becoming president of the Empire Circuit company in 1898. Like his father he was influential in St. Louis

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Missouri	
COUNTY Jackson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. # 2

STANDARD THEATRE

politics. He served two terms in the U. S. Congress, 1901-1905. He ably managed his \$1,000,000 inheritance from his father, doubling it before his death six years later, a feat underscored by the fact that his health was failing during that time and he lost his hearing and eyesight.⁸

The present owner is considering demolition of the theater for a parking lot. Kansas City preservationists are raising funds for purchase and restoration of the building in the belief that a quality theater facility will enhance the proposed adjacent hotel and convention center development.

The Standard Theatre is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places because of its importance as an element in the history of Kansas City architecture, society, and humanities.

FOOTNOTES

1. Kansas City [Missouri] Star, September 23, 1900, p. 2.
2. Rose Donegan, widow of Joe Donegan, taped interview with Kansas City Landmark Commission, March 2, 1974.
3. Ibid.
4. Kansas City [Missouri] Star, September 22, 1923.
5. City Directory of Kansas City, Missouri (Kansas City: Hoyer Directory Company, 1886-1925).
6. Kansas City [Missouri] Journal-Post, June 29, 1924.
7. St. Louis [Missouri] Republican, September 9, 1911, September 10, 1911, September 13, 1911. Kansas City [Missouri] Star, September 12, 1911.
8. St. Louis [Missouri] Globe-Democrat, June 1, 1917.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. City Directory of Kansas City, Missouri. Kansas City: Hoyer Directory Company, 1886-1925.
2. Curtiss, Louis. "Specifications for the Erection and Completion of a Theatre Building and Dressing Room Annex for Messrs. Ed. H. and Jas. J. Butler, of Saint Louis, Missouri, to be Erected at the Corner of Twelfth and Central Streets, Kansas City, Missouri, According to Drawings and Specifications Prepared Therefore by Louis Curtiss, Architect, Kansas City, Missouri," [1900].

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "	39° 06' 00" N 90° 35' 12" W	° ' "		
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	
1. James Ryan	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Landmarks Commission--Kansas City, Missouri	March 30, 1974
STREET AND NUMBER:	
17th Floor-West, City Hall	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE
Kansas City	Missouri 64105
	CODE
	29

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name _____
James L. Wilson, Director
Missouri State Park Board
Title _____
Missouri State P.L. 89-665
Preservation Officer

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Missouri	
COUNTY Jackson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

9. # 1

STANDARD THEATRE

3. Donegan, Rose. Taped interview with Kansas City Landmark Commission, March 2, 1974.
4. Kansas City [Missouri] Journal-Post, June 29, 1924.
5. Kansas City [Missouri] Star, September 23, 1900; September 12, 1911; and September 22, 1923.
6. St. Louis [Missouri] Globe-Democrat, June 1, 1917.
7. St. Louis [Missouri] Republican, September 9, 1911; September 10, 1911.

OTHER PERTINENT SOURCES

1. Comee, Fred T. "Louis Curtiss of Kansas City," Progressive Architecture, 44:128-134, August, 1963.
2. Gilbert, Douglas. American Vaudeville Its Life and Times. New York: Wittlesey House, 1940.
3. Hoffmann, Donald L. "Kansas City's Architectural Debt to Curtiss," Kansas City [Missouri] Star, May 3, 1964.
4. Johnson, Brickell, Mulcahy and Associates, Inc. Historic Building Preservation Analysis, Kansas City, Missouri Downtown Plan. Kansas City, Missouri: Development Planning Program, Central Business District Urban Renewal Project, 1973.
5. Peck, Phoebe. "The Theater in Kansas City." Unpublished Master's thesis, University of Kansas City, 1940.
6. Service Permit, Office of Water Department. Kansas City, Missouri, #1366, April 2, 1900.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Missouri	
COUNTY Jackson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

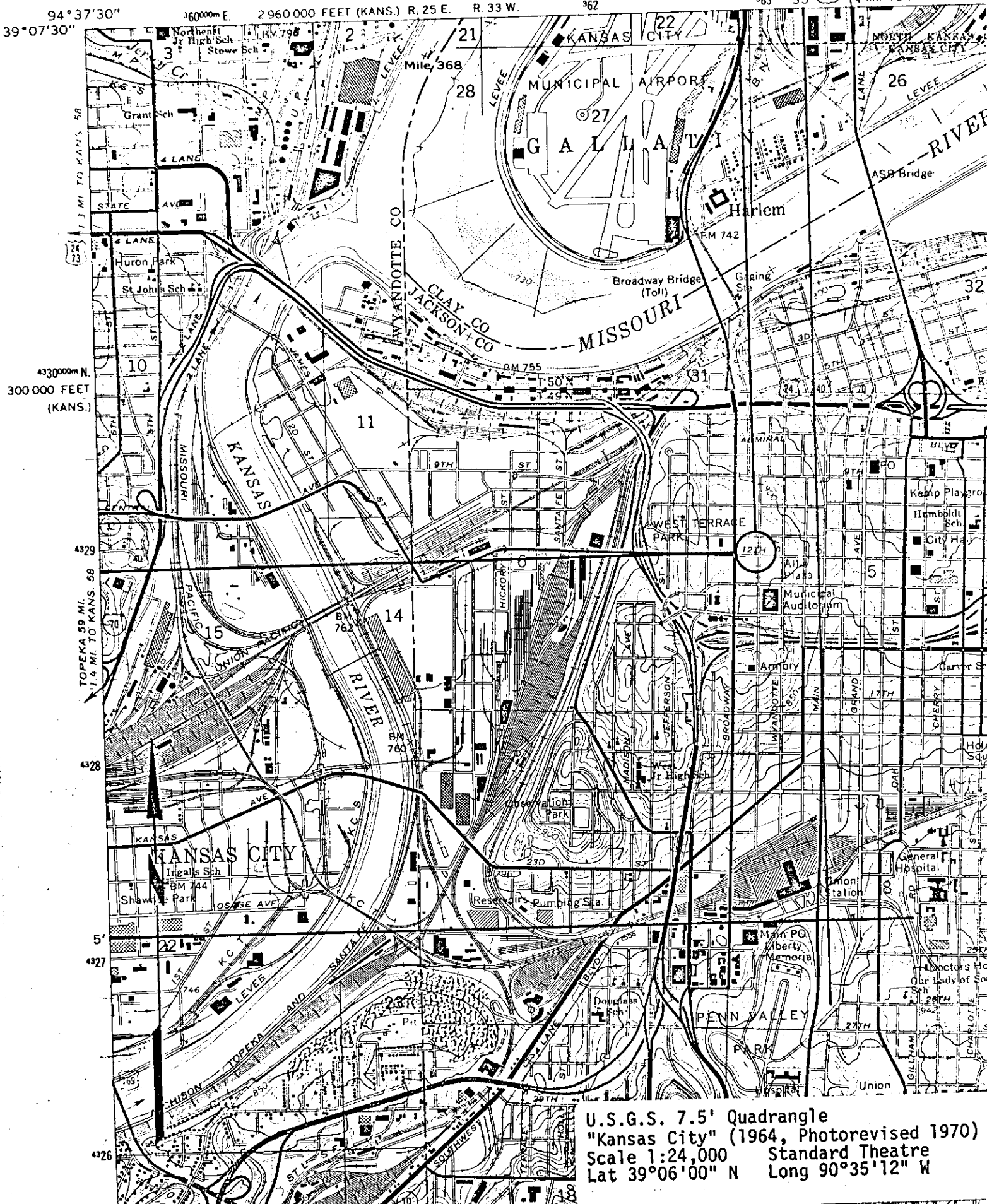
11. # 1

STANDARD THEATRE

2. M. Patricia Holmes, Research Associate
Missouri State Park Board
State Historical Survey and Planning Office
P. O. Box 176, 1204 Jefferson Building
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Code: 29

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
"Kansas City" (1964, Photorevised 1970)
Scale 1:24,000 Standard Theatre
Lat 39°06'00" N Long 90°35'12" W

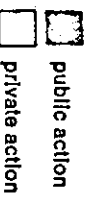


Figure 37

ACTION RESPONSIBILITY: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

The diagram above indicates initial acquisition responsibility between public and private sectors for the fifteen year study period.

From: Kansas City, Missouri, Downtown Plan, 1971



The Standard Theatre

public action

private action

STANDARD THEATRE

#203

COUNTY:

Jackson

LOCATION:

12th & Central streets (300 W. 12th Street),
Kansas City, Mo. 64105

OWNER:
ADDRESS:

Annbar Associates
c/o Hotel Muehlbach, Kansas City, Mo. 64105

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.:

03-30-74

DATE SENT TO JEFF. CITY:

05-15-74

DATE SENT TO D.C.:

05-21-74

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.:

05-24-74

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER:

06-05-74

DATE AWARDED CERTIFICATE
(AND PRESENTOR):

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

The Standard Theatre in Kansas City, Missouri, designed by architect Louis S. Curtiss, is an important survival of turn-of-the-century theatre architecture in the downtown area. Survival of the original architectural blueprints and specifications for construction enhance the importance of the structure as an architectural document. Plans for a 1910 addition to the adjoining Edward Hotel (razed 1965) by Curtiss are also extant.

Tax: MO-62-00058

Standard Theatre
Kansas City, Mo.
Jackson Co.

Geo. Ehrlich

Jul. 1973

Present appearance of the theater from the south looking northwest. South (primary) facade at left, east (secondary) facade at right. Flagpole and roof originally supported a sphere three feet in diameter with light bulbs covering its surface. The marquee has been removed, and the emergency exit locations are modified. Several original doors and windows have been bricked



Folly w/ story

Old view showing the original appearance of a theater with the companion Edward Hotel at also a Louis Curtiss design (razed 1965). Main has been removed. Exterior emergency stairs have been removed and replaced.

Standard Theatre, Kansas City, 12th and Central

from: Kansas City and Vicinity
Kansas City, Mo.: S. H. Knox & Co.
1905 & 1908 (at SHSM)

ORIG - 54 x 39
REPRO - 29 x 21
SOR - 54%



View is from southeast, looking northwest showing the south (primary) facade at left and east (secondary) facade at

K



K

CENTURY THEATRE

Standard Theatre
Kansas City, Missouri.

M.P. Holmes, photog.

Mar. 1974

SW → NE

35 mm.

Site for
COP

Profile of the former Edward Hotel (razed)
is visible against the west wall of the
The dressing room wing, a low, one story structure
is visible to left of main building. This
demonstrates the character of the neighborhood
presently surrounding the theater.



Standard Theatre
Kansas City, Jackson County

Mar '74

Proscenium Arch - interior view

by KC Landmarks Comm.

A portion of the "sail vault" ceiling is visible
at the upper edge of the photograph.

